



**ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS
REGULAR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING**

**Founders Park Community Center
87000 Overseas Hwy
Islamorada, FL 33036
Thursday, December 4, 2014
5:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Mike Forster called the meeting to order at 5:32 P.M. The following Council members were present on roll call: Mayor Mike Forster, Vice Mayor Deb Gillis, Councilman Jim Mooney, Councilman Chris Sante and Councilman Dennis Ward. Also in attendance were Village Manager Maria Aguilar, Village Attorney Roget Bryan, Village Clerk Kelly Toth, Director of Planning Cheryl Cioffari and all other appropriate personnel.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. John Cooper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Presentation of Employee Longevity Pins

Village Manager Maria Aguilar presented longevity pins to the following employees:

15 Year Pins: Fire Chief Terry Abel, Assistant Chief Jason Lyman and Fire Captain Robert Burley

10 Year Pins: Fire Captain Walter Mason, IT Director Stu Bautz and Director of Park & Recreation & Marine Resources John Sutter. Firefighter/Paramedics: Mike Powell & Jean Delgado were acknowledged, but were not present to receive their pins.

5 Year Pins: Village Clerk Kelly Toth. Public Works employee Jose Valcarcel was acknowledged, but was not present to receive his pin.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Mike Forster opened public comment.

Dave Purdo spoke in support of affordable housing.

Fire Chief Terry Abel announced that the Fire Department's annual holiday parade would take place on December 14th beginning on Lower Matecumbe Key. He urged citizens to bring unwrapped toys and

stated the firefighters would be collecting the toys during the parade. He explained that the gifts were for Toys for Tots and could also be dropped off at any of the Islamorada fire stations. Chief Abel stated all fire stations are accepting canned food items to deliver to local food banks.

John Sutter, Director of Parks and Recreation and Marine Resources announced the Chamber of Commerce Annual Holiday Festival to be held at Founders Park on December 5th.

Mayor Forster closed public comment.

V. AGENDA: Request for Deletion / Emergency Additions

Village Attorney Roget Bryan added a discussion item regarding the Village Attorney's annual review to Section XV. Village Attorney/ Village Manager Communications.

VI. CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

VII. VILLAGE MANAGER REPORTS AND UPDATES

A. CityView Update

Village Manager Maria Aguilar stated that staff had begun using the new upgraded CityView 14 building and inspections modules. She stated the web portal was accessible to the public effective December 4, 2014. Ms. Aguilar explained the process for retrieving information and the types of information that could be found using this portal. Ms. Aguilar explained the future plans for accepting certain types of building permit applications through the Village website.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

(All items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Village Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which event, the item will be moved to the Main Agenda.)

A. Minutes:

November 6, 2014 Regular Village Council Meeting
November 20, 2014 Regular Village Council Meeting

Vice Mayor Deb Gillis made a motion to approve. Councilman Chris Sante seconded the motion. Council voted all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

IX. WASTEWATER MATTERS

A. Wastewater Project Update

Wade Trim Executive Vice President Tom Brzezinski reported that there had been moderate salinity improvements and provided an update on leak detection plans. Mr. Brzezinski reported that approximately 180 property owners had completed grinder pump program documents and of these approximately 80 had paid.

Mr. Brzezinski reported that the conveyance force main between the North Plantation Key re-pump station and the Upper Matecumbe Key vacuum pump station is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

Mr. Brzezinski reported that the Middle Plantation Key vacuum pump station is expected to be tested on December 16th and that potable water would be used during the testing process. He stated connection notices are expected to be sent out to property owners in the northern part of Middle Plantation Key in February; and the remaining notices for Middle Plantation Key would be sent out in March. Mr. Brzezinski clarified that the notices could not go out until the use permits had been obtained and explained that the testing had to be completed before they could apply for the four use permits. Councilman Chris Sante expressed concern over the delay in sending out connection notices. Mayor Mike Forster stated several change orders have occurred that contribute to the change in the connection date. Vice Mayor Deb Gillis stated that the majority of the change orders were for items Council added to the wastewater program.

Mr. Brzezinski stated that approximately 70% of the base contract construction had been completed. He explained that the Owners Representative budget was currently exceeding the fiscal year plan budget; however, they were approximately \$750,000 below the overall budget to date. Mr. Brzezinski explained that the overall budget was created in 2011 and that the overall savings includes the additional inspections that have occurred.

Mayor Mike Forster requested an update on private road easements. Village Attorney Roget Bryan stated that they have eight pending. Wastewater Program Manager Greg Tindle stated that some properties were bypassed but that there have not been any additional costs.

Mayor Mike Forster opened public comment.

Dave Purdo inquired about payments to Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District (KLWTD) for salinity fines. Vice Mayor Deb Gillis stated that no fines had been issued nor had any payments been made to the KLWTD for salinity issues. Mr. Brzezinski stated that the KLWTD has been tracking the amount owed but has not charged the Village.

Joe Ziomek spoke against the Owner's Representative budget being over the planned budget. He inquired about the asphalt plans for Venetian shores and stated the asphalt on Palermo Drive was thicker than other streets in the neighborhood.

Wastewater Program Manager Greg Tindle provided a paving update. He stated that due to the road quality in Venetian Shores additional asphalt is required to restore the streets and the amount of funding needed for the additional asphalt is not expected to exceed \$150,000. Council gave direction to move forward with adding the additional asphalt to the streets as needed in Venetian Shores.

Mayor Forster closed public comment.

X. ORDINANCES

- A.** Second Reading – Ordinance Amending Chapter 30 “Land Development Regulations,” Article II “Rules of Construction and Definitions”, and Amending Article VI “Specific Use Restrictions,” Division 10 “Signs” of the Village Code

Village Attorney Roget Bryan read the title of the Resolution and stated this is second reading. Planning Director Cheryl Cioffari provided the staff report.

Mayor Forster opened public comment; seeing none, public comment was closed.

Council discussion ensued with staff input as needed. Following discussion, Ms. Cioffari clarified Council direction to make the following changes to the proposed ordinance:

1. Revise the language on page 3 of 25 pertaining to Advertising Vehicle to better clarify the intent of the passage;
2. Revise the language on page 3 of 25 pertaining to Advertising Vehicle to allow for a maximum of 12 square feet per side;
3. On page 11 of 25 (1) add *by the property owner* after the word covered;
4. Abolish election sign permit fee if the Village cannot apply the same fee to state elections signs; and
5. On page 16 of 25 (7) remove the word *verbal*.

Following Council agreement to make the changes, Ms. Cioffari announced the time certain for second reading of the ordinance for January 8, 2015.

Mayor Forster opened public comment; seeing none, public comment was closed.

XI. QUASI-JUDICIAL

XII. RESOLUTIONS

XIII. MOTIONS

XIV. MAYOR / COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Discussion Regarding Snake Creek Bridge Openings

Mayor Mike Forster provided a brief history of previous efforts to address the Snake Creek drawbridge openings. Mayor Forster proposed that the Village pursue a reduction in the Snake Creek Bridge openings to once per hour between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Village Manager Maria Aguilar stated that requests had been made for emergency relief and permanent relief would require additional steps. Mayor Forster suggested staff prepare a letter to other municipalities in Monroe County soliciting support in this effort. Council agreed with Mayor Forster's proposal.

Mayor Forster opened public comment.

John Cooper suggested working with the bridge tender to enforce the law and speaking with the local Coast Guard station to obtain compliance. Mr. Cooper suggested reaching out to the Coast Guard Auxiliary for assistance.

Mayor Forster closed public comment.

XV. VILLAGE ATTORNEY / VILLAGE MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS

Village Attorney Roget Bryan advised Council that his review was due per his contract. He provided a sample review document and requested Council input on the matter. Council discussion ensued. Council requested an amendment to the contract to allow for the first annual review to occur on March 1st and that the Village Attorney research changing the LPA appointment date provided in Ordinance 11-16.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Chris Sante made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Mike Forster seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM



Kelly S. Toth
Village Clerk

Approved by the Village Council this 4th day of December, 2014.